

--28. (new) A container as claimed in claim 27 which has a longitudinal axis and said projections are transverse.--

--29. (new) A container as claimed in claim 27 in which said flexing of said flexure region results in an outward curvature of said outward projection of said flexure region lessening.--

--30. (new) A container as claimed in claim 27 wherein said initiator region has an outward curvature which merges smoothly with said flexure region and progressively increases *outward* from said initiator region to said flexure region.--

--31. (new) A container as claimed in claim 27 wherein said initiator region has an outward curvature which merges smoothly with said flexure region and progressively decreases *outward* from said initiator region to said flexure region.--

--32. (new) A container as claimed in claim 27 wherein an extent of said outward *outward* projections relative to said plane varies along an axis of said container.--

--33. (new) A container as claimed in claim 27 wherein said projection of said initiator region extends transversely relative to a longitudinal axis of said container.--

--34. (new) A container as claimed in claim 32 in which a projection of said flexure region extends transversely relative to said longitudinal axis of said container.--

--35. (new) A container as claimed in claim 33 in which the initiator region inverts so as to reverse in curvature in response to vacuum pressure change within said container.--

CONT

--36. (new) A container as claimed in claim 34 in which said flexure region inverts so as to reverse in curvature in response to vacuum pressure change within said container.--

--37. (new) A container having a longitudinal axis, said container adapted to contain liquid at a temperature elevated above room temperature, said container including a wall with at least one invertible flexible panel, said flexible panel being adapted to flex upon a changing of internal pressure during a changing of temperature of said liquid, said flexible panel having at least one projecting portion, projecting in a direction from a plane disposed relative to said longitudinal axis, said flexible panel further including at least one initiator portion projecting to a lesser extent in said direction, whereby in use, said initiator portion is adapted to reverse relative to the direction of its projection thereby causing said projecting portion to reverse relative to the direction of its projection.--

--38. (new) A container as claimed in claim 37, wherein said flexible panel is adapted to flex inwardly upon a lowering of internal pressure during a cooling of said liquid.--

--39. (new) A container as claimed in claim 37, wherein the projection is in an outward direction relative to said plane.--

--40. (new) A container as claimed in claim 37, wherein the flexible panel is substantially arcuate with the curvature of the initiator portion being less than that of the projecting portion. -- *Mr Ben*

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--41. (new) A container as claimed in claim 40, wherein the flexible panel is substantially arcuate with the curvature of the initiator portion being less than that of the remainder of the flexible panel. -- *Mr Ben*

--42. (new) A container as claimed in claim 37, wherein said flexible panel is adapted to flex outwardly in use upon a raising of internal pressure during a heating of said liquid. -- *new*

--43. (new) A container as claimed in claim 42, wherein the projection is in an inward direction relative to said plane. --

--44. (new) A container as claimed in claim 43, wherein the flexible panel is substantially arcuate and the curvature of the initiator portion is less than that of the remainder of the flexible panel. -- *new*

--45. (new) A thin-walled container having a longitudinal axis, said container formed from a plastics material and adapted to contain liquid at a temperature elevated above room temperature, said container including: an upper portion which includes a sealable closure receiving portion; a lower portion including a base closing the bottom of the container; and a wall extending between said upper and lower portions, said wall being generally tubular in shape and including at least one elongated, vertically oriented vacuum panel, said vacuum panel being adapted to flex inwardly upon a lowering of internal pressure during cooling of said liquid, said vacuum panel including a connecting portion and an elongated outwardly projecting portion, said connecting portion connecting said outwardly projecting portion to said wall, said connecting portion being adapted to flex inwardly upon lowering of internal pressure during cooling of said liquid, said outwardly projecting portion including an initiator portion, said initiator portion including a substantially flattened portion and a raised portion, said flattened portion connecting said connecting portion to said raised portion, said raised portion projecting outwardly to a lesser extent than the remainder of said outwardly projecting portion, whereby in use, increased vacuum pressure causes said flattened portion to curve inwardly, thereby causing said raised portion to reverse in curvature, thereby causing said outwardly projecting portion to reverse in curvature. -- *new*

NPL

--46. (new) A thin-walled container as claimed in claim 45 wherein said vacuum panel including a connecting portion, said connecting portion connecting said outwardly projecting portion to said wall said connecting portion being adapted to flex inwardly upon lowering of internal pressure during cooling of said liquid and said flattened portion connecting said connecting portion to said raised portion.--

--47. (new) A container having at least one controlled deflection flex panel said flex panel having an initiator region of a predetermined extent of outward projection and a flexure region of a greater extent of outward projection extending longitudinally away from said initiator region, whereby flex panel deflection occurs in a controlled and progressive manner in response to changing container pressure.--

--48. (new) A container adapted to contain liquid at a temperature elevated above room temperature, said container including a wall with a controlled deflection flex panel having a portion with an initiator region having a predetermined extent of projection and a flexure region having a progressively increasing extent of projection extending away from said initiator region, said wall being outwardly bowed between said regions, whereby flex panel deflection occurs progressively between said regions in a controlled manner in response to changing container pressure.--

N --49. (new) A container including a controlled deflection flex panel having an initiator region including a predetermined extent of inward projection and flexure region having an outward projection, the flexure region extending longitudinally away from said initiator region, whereby flex panel deflection occurs in a controlled manner in response to changing container pressure.--

NPL 6en

Claim 1
--50. (new) A container adapted to contain liquid at a temperature elevated above room temperature, said container having a wall including a controlled deflection flex panel having a portion with an initiator region having a predetermined extent of inward projection and a flexure region having a progressively increasing extent of inward projection in the longitudinal direction extending away from said initiator region, said wall being inwardly bowed between said regions, whereby flex panel deflection occurs progressively between said regions in a controlled manner in response to changing container pressure.--

*not
new*

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--51. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 47, including a pair of substantially inflexible regions between which said initiator region and said flexure region extends, a flattened region extending between said inflexible regions to provide an end portion of said initiator region. --

*not
new*

--52. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 51,
wherein the initiator region and flexure region are substantially arcuate.--

*not
new*

--53. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 51,
wherein the initiator region is substantially arcuate. --

*not
new*

--54. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 51,
wherein the flexure region is substantially arcuate. --

*not
new*

--55. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 52,
wherein the initiator region and flexure region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--

*not
new*

--56. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 52,
wherein the initiator region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--

*not
new*

--57. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 52,
wherein the flexure region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

CONT'D
--58. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 53,
wherein the initiator region and flexure region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

--59. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 53,
wherein the initiator region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

--60. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 53,
wherein the flexure region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

--61. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 54,
wherein the initiator region and flexure region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

--62. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 54,
wherein the initiator region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

--63. (new) A container having a controlled deflection flex panel as claimed in claim 54,
wherein the flexure region includes two panel portions meeting at an apex.--
not in

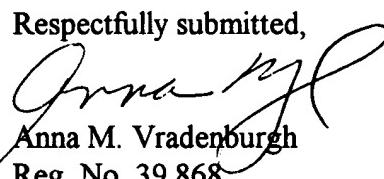
--64. (new) A container having a longitudinal axis, said container including a wall with
at least one invertible flexible panel, said flexible panel being adapted to flex upon a change of
internal pressure, said flexible panel having at least one projecting portion, said projecting
portion projecting in a direction from a plane, said plane disposed relative to said longitudinal
axis, said flexible panel also including at least one initiator portion projecting to a lesser extent in
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said direction, said flexible panel also including a connecting portion, said connecting portion connecting said initiator portion to said wall, whereby in use, deflection of the connecting portion causes said initiator portion to reverse in curvature thereby causing the projecting portion to reverse in curvature.--

Applicant respectfully requests that the above-referenced application be amended as set forth above. A check in the amount of \$1356.00 (#1756) is included to cover the additional filing fees.

Respectfully submitted,


Anna M. Vradenburgh
Reg. No. 39,868

Date: 12/27/01

AMV/
Enclosure: Check #1756

Bruell Piccionelli Sarno Braun & Vradenburgh
1925 Century Park East, Suite 2350
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 553-3375 telephone
(310) 553-4120 facsimile